

Message Text

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44

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NASA-01 NEA-09

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-03 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 /116 W

----- 039953

R 061639Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9889

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR US DEL REVCON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, GW, SOPN

SUBJECT: NPT: MEDIA REACTION TO FRG RATIFICATION

BEGIN SUMMARY: MEDIA REACTION TO THE FRG RATIFICATION
OF THE NPT WAS RELATIVELY LIGHT, ALTHOUGH A FILM OF
THE DEPOSITING CEREMONY IN THE DEPARTMENT WAS CARRIED
BY TV NEWS BROADCASTS. IN A RADIO INTERVIEW
MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION BAHR, WHILE NOTING
THAT THE FRG HAD DEMONSTRATED CREDIBILITY FOR ITS
POLICY OF PEACE, CRITICIZED THE NUCLEAR POWERS FOR
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FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT THE TREATY. FORMER CDU FOREIGN

MINISTER SCHROEDER ALSO INDICATED THAT THE TREATY'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO DISARMAMENT WERE "VERY MEAGER AND VERY THIN." IN THE SOLE EDITORIAL NOTED ON THE SUBJECT, THE FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE DISCUSSED MOSCOW'S STUBBORN BERLIN POLICY AND ITS REFUSAL TO ACCEPT THE FRG DECLARATION EXTENDING THE TREATY TO THAT CITY. END SUMMARY

1. THE ACCESSION OF THE FRG TO THE NPT FIVE AND ONE-HALF YEARS FOLLOWING SIGNATURE OF THE TREATY RECEIVED RELATIVELY LITTLE NEWS COVERAGE IN THE FRG. THE NEWS WAS CARRIED IN THE THREE NATIONAL NEWSPAPERS, AND THERE WAS ALSO A SHORT FILM ON EVENING TV NEWS BROADCASTS SHOWING THE DEPOSITING CEREMONY HELD IN THE DEPARTMENT ON MAY 2. THE ARTICLES PLAYED THE STORY STRAIGHT, RELATING RATIFICATION TO THE FRG'S PARTICIPATION IN THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE MEETING IN GENEVA.

2. DIE WELT ADDED FOUR POLICY ANGLES TO THE STRAIGHT NEWS ASPECT OF ITS STORY WHICH ITS BONN CORRESPONDENT EXPECTS THE FRG TO PURSUE IN GENEVA AT THE REVIEW CONFERENCE. THE FOUR POLICIES WERE STATED AS FOLLOWS:

A) BONN HAS A SPECIAL INTEREST IN HELPING GAIN UNIVERSALITY FOR THE NPT. HOWEVER, THE ACCESSION OF NON-PARTIES TO THE TREATY WILL NOT BE OBTAINED THROUGH AMENDMENTS TO THE TEXT BUT RATHER THROUGH POLITICAL ARGUMENTATION. THE REVIEW CONFERENCE IS EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS.

B) THE FRG WILL NOT ASSIST THOSE STATES WITH WHOM IT COOPERATES ON PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY TO BECOME NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES. THEREFORE, ALL STATES WITH WHOM BONN COOPERATES IN THIS AREA MUST AGREE NOT TO MANUFACTURE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND TO ACCEPT IAEA SAFEGUARDS EVEN WHEN THEY ARE NOT PARTIES TO THE NPT.

C) ARTICLE VI OF THE NPT CALLS UPON THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS IN GOOD FAITH REGARDING NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT. THE BONN DELEGATION WILL, IN THIS CONNECTION, WELCOME THE RESULTS OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"SALT I" DISCUSSIONS AND SIMULTANEOUSLY VOICE THE HOPE THAT THE SOVIET-AMERICAN VLADIVOSTOK ACCORDS OPEN THE WAY TO A REDUCTION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN WOULD, IN THE FRG'S VIEW, BE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION OF THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES.

D) ARTICLE V OF THE NPT GIVES TO THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES THE TASK OF MAKING THE BENEFITS OF

PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY AVAILABLE TO OTHER STATES. IN GENEVA BONN WILL ATTEMPT TO SEE HOW THIS PROVISION CAN BE IMPLEMENTED SINCE IT MAY BE MEANINGFUL IN THE FUTURE.

3. FEDERAL MINISTER OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION EGON BAHR, IN A RADIO INTERVIEW ON MAY 3, VOICED HIS OPINION THAT THE ACCESSION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC TO THE NPT DEMONSTRATED THE CREDIBILITY OF ITS POLICY OF PEACE WITHOUT HAVING SUFFERED ANY DISADVANTAGES. BAHR

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NASA-01 NEA-09

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R 061639Z MAY 75

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UNDERLINED THAT GERMAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY WOULD REMAIN FULLY COMPETITIVE AND THAT THERE WERE NO SPECIAL COSTS TO THE INDUSTRY THROUGH SAFEGUARDS. AT THE SAME TIME, BAHR SAID THAT THE NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES MUST REMIND THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES TO FULFILL THE OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED UNDER THE NPT. BAHR CONTINUED THAT THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS POWERS SUCH AS THE US AND USSR HAVE NOT YET COMPLIED WITH THEIR COMMITMENTS REGARDING NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT. THE LETTER OF THE TREATY HAS NOT BEEN OBSERVED BECAUSE THE CREATION OF A PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSION SERVICE IS STILL OPEN. WHEN ASKED WHETHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PNE'S WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT TO THE FRG, BAHR DENIED THAT THIS WAS THE CASE BUT INDICATED THAT COUNTRIES SUCH AS INDIA WOULD NOT HAVE HAD TO EXPLODE A NUCLEAR DEVICE HAD PNE SERVICES BEEN AVAILABLE.

4. FORMER CDU FOREIGN MINISTER GERHARD SCHROEDER CHARACTERIZED THE OUTLOOK FOR THE NPT CONTRIBUTING TO DISARMAMENT "AS VERY MEAGER AND VERY THIN." SCHROEDER, ALSO IN A RADIO INTERVIEW LATER CARRIED IN THE PRESS, SAID THAT IN THE PAST THE TREATY HAD NOT LED TO DISARMAMENT. SCHROEDER INDICATED FURTHER THAT THE GERMAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY MUST UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES BE DISADVANTAGED BY "DIRTY COMPETITION."

5. WE NOTED ONLY ONE EDITORIAL ON THE SUBJECT OF THE RATIFICATION, A SHORT ONE IN THE MAY 3 FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE WHICH DESCRIBED THE BERLIN CONNECTION TO THE TREATY. THE EDITORIAL INDICATED THAT THE FRG WAS DEPOSITING INSTRUMENTS IN WASHINGTON AND LONDON TOGETHER WITH A BERLIN DECLARATION EXTENDING THE TREATY TO THE WESTERN SECTORS. THE EDITORIAL CONTINUED THAT MOSCOW WOULD ONLY ACCEPT THE FRG'S RATIFICATION INSTRUMENT IF EXTENSION TO BERLIN WERE RENOUNCED. THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDED BY NOTING THAT "...MOSCOW CONTINUED TO INSIST THAT THE TREATIES INVOLVE 'MATTERS OF THE SECURITY AND THE STATUS' OF WEST BERLIN....THIS SOVIET FORMALISM ABOUT BERLIN IS SO UNYIELDING THAT, TO MAINTAIN IT, MOSCOW IS WILLING TO GIVE PRIORITY TO ITS BERLIN STANCE, OVER SOVIET SELF-INTEREST...."

6. COMMENT: EGON BAHR'S REACTION TO THE FRG RATIFICATION WAS NOTEWORTHY, ESPECIALLY HIS COMMENT THAT THE COMPETITIVE POSITION OF GERMAN INDUSTRY HAD NOT SUFFERED AS A CONSEQUENCE OF SAFEGUARDS. BAHR WAS ABOARD FOR THE "TAKE OFF" OF THE NPT WHEN THE FRG SIGNED THE TREATY ON NOV. 28, 1969. THE SIGNING SYMBOLIZED THEN CHANCELLOR

BRANDT'S FIRST TANGIBLE STEP IN OSTPOLITIK. ALTHOUGH
NOT SITTING IN THE SAME SEAT NOW AS THEN, BAHR'S PRIDE
AND SATISFACTION WITH THE "LANDING" -- FRG ACCESSION TO
THE TREATY FIVE AND ONE-HALF YEARS LATER -- WAS READILY
EVIDENT IN HIS STATEMENT THAT THE FRG HAD DEMONSTRATED
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ITS CREDIBILITY IN PURSUING A POLICY OF PEACE. BAHR'S
CRITICISMS WERE NOT OUT OF LINE WITH WHAT THE U.S. CAN
EXPECT TO HEAR FROM OTHER NPT PARTIES DURING THE REVIEW
CONFERENCE, AND THEY RECEIVED LITTLE PLAY IN THE PRESS.
END COMMENT
HILLENBRAND

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